

Tiverton Open Space and Land Preservation Commission
November 9, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Essex Library, Highland Rd, Tiverton, RI

Present: Ginger Lacy (co-chair), Brian Janes (co-chair), Susan Anderson, Dick Bixby, Gayle Lawrence, Garry Plunkett, Martha Moore, and Phil Schuyler. Alan Leveillee, guest.
Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM by Ginger Lacy.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

- The minutes of the October meeting were accepted as corrected.
- Treasurer's Report was presented by Dick Bixby. Open Space Appropriation is \$1,500.00; Fort Barton Appropriation is \$1,634.67; OS Acquisition is \$49,328.30 OS Stewardship is \$7,000.37; Pocassetlands Stewardship is \$2,895.00 Accepted as presented.
- Phil raised a general question regarding conveyance fund balance. Brian will report findings at next meeting.
- Garry reported successful acquisition of a new projector for TOSC at a cost of \$859.95. He requested use of the remainder of the \$1,000 donation to cover balance on Elaine Lee Memorial, with consent of donor. Phil moved to accept request. Seconded by Sue. Motion carried.
- Volunteer hours were reported to Garry Plunkett

PRESENTATION by Alan Leveillee, RPA, PAL (Public Archaeology Laboratory) and Roger Williams University:

- Alan provided information on his background and experience related to working with municipal commissions on preservation of domestic, industrial and Native American historic and archaeological sites.
- Through an informal walkover of Weetamoo Woods with Garry Plunkett and preliminary conversations with Garry and Ginger Lacy, Alan became strongly interested in working cooperatively and supportively with TOSC to research and document the existing cultural resources within Weetamoo Woods and to explore with TOSC how that collaboration might go forward. Q & A followed.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM:

- Plans for the presentation at Town Hall on Sunday, November 15 at 2:00 PM by Susan Anderson on Colonel Barton and Fort Barton were finalized. Members assisting Sue will arrive at 1:15. Flyers were posted and press release completed. Garry will introduce program. Stu Hardy, Historic Preservation Commission, will close the program and provide information on newly formed commission and on initiatives to better preserve and enhance the Fort Barton site. After the presentation, Garry will provide a guided walk to the Fort.

TRAILS AND HABITAT:

- Garry reported that USFW grant for removing interior hedgerows in Weetamoo meadow is still viable, so he will commence work on the project whenever LJ Sylvia becomes available. He requested up to \$500 to cover the cost of Josh Lebreux brush-hogging work along the exterior meadow walls. Phil motioned to fund request. Seconded by Gayle. Motion passed unanimously. Garry also noted that we await statement from Mr. Hibbad for earlier work. Garry will check on report of another large tree down.
- Phil reported that the trails in Fort Barton were in good condition. Dana Sumner is walking them regularly and helping with litter control.

EDUCATION AND GRANTS:

- Ginger opened a discussion of Alan Leveillee's presentation and proposal. After discussion, it was the consensus of the commission members that it would be worthwhile to continue to gather information through additional interactions and meetings with Mr. Leveillee. It was agreed that any and all proposals, including those involving the Preservation Partnership Program, would be brought before the TOSC members for careful consideration. Garry will serve as the primary contact from TOSC and will notify Mr. Leveillee via email of our decision to continue the conversation begun tonight.

PROPERTIES REVIEW:

- Brian Janes requested up to \$3,000 from the OS Acquisition fund for a land appraisal. After a brief discussion and description, Phil motioned to fund request. Seconded by Garry. Passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING: December 21, 2009 at Essex Library.

ADJOURNMENT: Phil motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Gayle. Passed unanimously. Adjourned at 9:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Gayle Lawrence

